



March 25, 2011

To: Executive Board

Subject: **Foothill Transit Ecoliner Update**

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**Recommendation**

Receive and file the Foothill Transit Ecoliner Update.

**Background**

On April 24, 2009 the Foothill Transit Executive Board approved a unique electric bus project utilizing in-route fast charging through an agreement with bus manufacturer Proterra of Golden, Colorado. The Ecoliner project is among the most environmentally conscious projects in the transit industry today and is garnering considerable interest domestically and internationally. Foothill Transit's experience is setting the standard for the development of many similar projects.

**Attachments A and B** are the fifteenth and sixteenth issues, respectively, of the Foothill Transit Ecoliner Update. The Ecoliner Update Report serves as the communication conduit for the project's goals, processes, challenges, and outcomes. The report details project developments and is distributed electronically to industry peers, partners, and stakeholders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lauren Cochran".

Lauren Cochran  
Senior Operations Analyst

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Doran J. Barnes".

Doran J. Barnes  
Executive Director

Attachment

# Ecoliner

Zero Emissions Electric Vehicle

## Ecoliner Passes Safety Testing

In early February, Proterra conducted electromagnetic interference or "EMI" testing at the Pomona Transit Center (PTC). Exposure standards and safety guidelines for radiofrequency energy have been developed by the US Federal Communication Commission (FCC), and the FCC recommends safe levels of exposure to radiofrequency for the public. The test concluded that it is safe for passengers and operators to be onboard the Ecoliner while it is charging.



## Operator and Maintenance Training Continues

Upon the completion of the EMI tests, Proterra conducted on-site Ecoliner docking and charging training for six First Transit operators.

Proterra also directed in-depth Ecoliner maintenance training at the Pomona operating division. The training was followed by a full preventative maintenance inspection (PMI) of the Ecoliner, conducted by First Transit.

## SCAQMD Visits Charging Station

In 2010, the Technology Advancement Office of the South Coast Air Quality Management District SCAQMD awarded Foothill Transit a \$290,000 grant for Ecoliner operation and fast-charge demonstration. With charging station testing underway, representatives were eager to see Foothill Transit's progress. Thus, in mid-February, two representatives from the SCAQMD Technology Advancement Office were hosted by Foothill Transit at the PTC. The representatives were excited to see the bus and charging station in action!

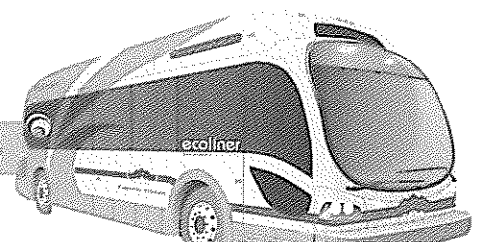
## Validation Testing Continues

Charging station validation testing commenced in early February and has progressed as expected. Representatives from Foothill Transit, Proterra, AeroVironment, and Southern California Edison have been on-site at the PTC during testing. Systems validation testing and final acceptance of the charging station is the last step in the overall acceptance process.



**Foothill Transit**

100 South Vincent Avenue, Suite 200, West Covina, California 91790, 626-967-3147, [foothilltransit.org](http://foothilltransit.org)



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## Secretary LaHood Visits Proterra Plant

In late January, U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood and Federal Transit Administrator Peter Rogoff toured the floor of the Proterra manufacturing facility in Greenville, South Carolina.

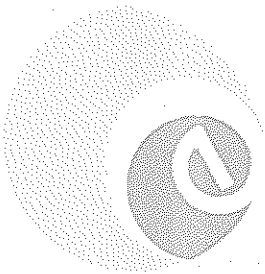
Secretary LaHood's visit followed President Obama's State of the Union Address, where he stressed the

importance of investments that foster American ingenuity, innovation, and create green jobs. Director of Operations and Maintenance George Karbowski and Deputy Executive Director Kevin McDonald watched from the audience at the Greenville plant as Executive Director Doran Barnes spoke about the Foothill Transit Ecoliner project and the importance of clean transportation.



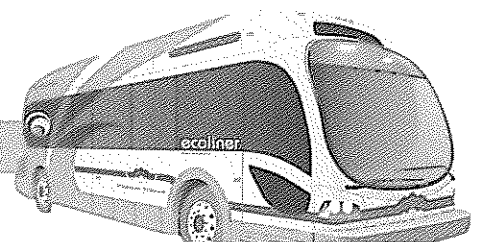
## Want more?

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## Overall Project Progress

The Ecoliner project is progressing as anticipated. All three buses are running in service daily and are using the fast charge system at the Pomona Transit Center. Foothill Transit continues to work with Proterra to complete charging station validation testing and to develop long-term charging station maintenance plans.

Specific highlights include:

- PTC fast charge system operating daily
- All three Ecoliners tested, docked, and charged at the PTC
- First Transit technicians involved with daily bus maintenance
- Nearly 8,000 miles and hundreds of fastcharges accumulated in service

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